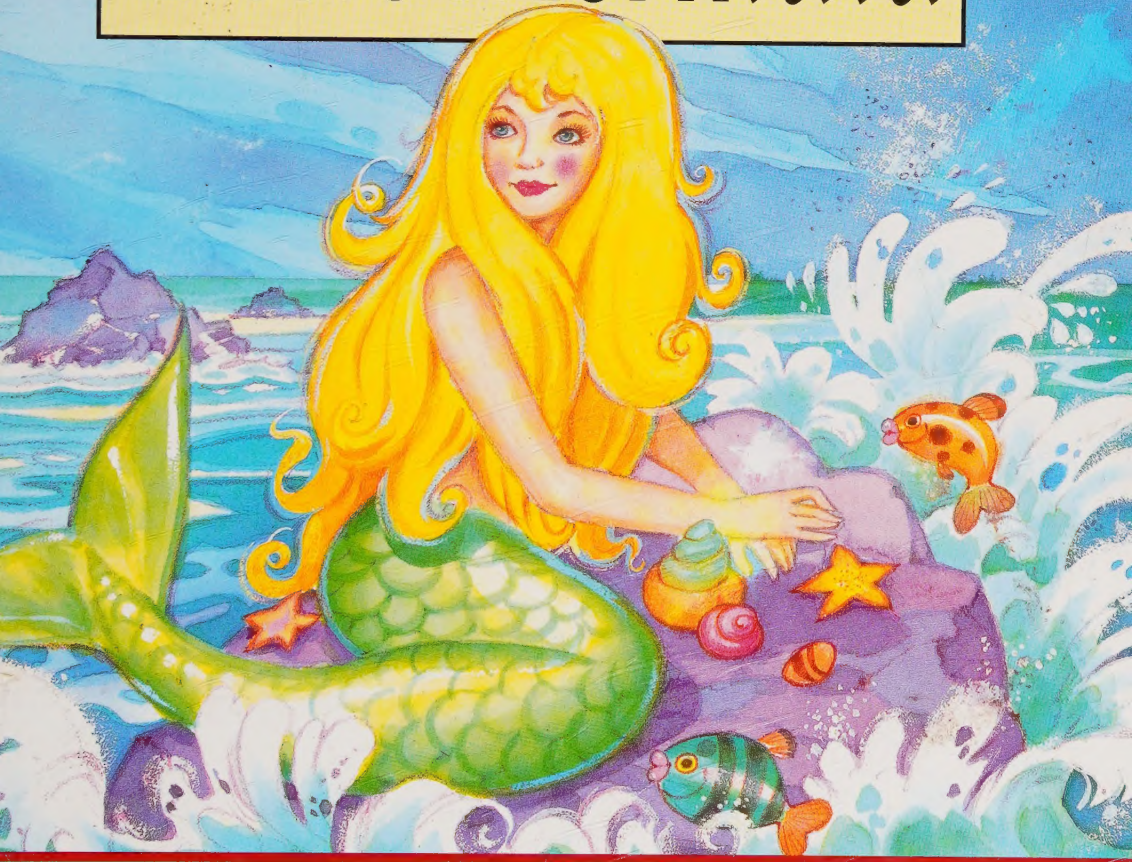
PICTURE TALES

# The Little Mermaid



A first fairy tale rebus for beginner readers

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PICTURE TALES

# The Little Mermaid

Illustrated by Brian Bartle

PARRAGON

Once upon a time there was a little , who lived with her sisters, and her father, the Mer , at the bottom of the . They liked to play with all the who lived there.

The little often dreamt of the above the , where grew and sang. How she longed to go there. On her fifteenth birthday, the little was

allowed above the .

She saw a beautiful with a handsome Prince on board, and she fell in love at once.

But with a flash of , a terrible storm came up.

The was tossed about,

then sank beneath the .

The little carried the

safely to . When he

opened his , a was

leaning over him, but it was

not the little .

The thought the had saved his life, and fell in love at once. The little went sadly home, and the other girl ran away too.

Weeks passed and the little

longed to see the

once more.

Then one day her sisters found his and she hurried to it. She returned every day to watch him from the near the .

She longed to win his ,

but she knew that she must

become a human to do

that. So the little went

to the fearful sea witch and

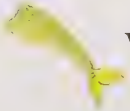
made a terrible bargain.

In return for her lovely voice, the gave her human , and the little left home for ever. The found her on the and welcomed her into his .

Although the little could not speak, they soon made friends, and he loved her dearly like a sister. Then one day the announced that he was to be married.

He had found the he believed had rescued him.

The little mermaid's was broken. But on the day of the wedding she saw her sisters rise from the .

They had cut off their and given it to the in return for a magic . If she killed the with it, and dripped his blood onto her , her  would return.

But the little could not kill her beloved , so she jumped into the sea, where she dissolved into foam.

Then the air spirits caught her up to watch over her and guard his happiness.

This charming first fairy tale rebus will delight both parent and child alike.

This favourite traditional fairy tale is beautifully illustrated, providing entertaining, interactive fun!

•PARRAGON•

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